

Disaster Assistance Appropriations Bill House File 64

Last Action:
House Rebuild Iowa
Committee
January 21, 2009

Executive Summary Only

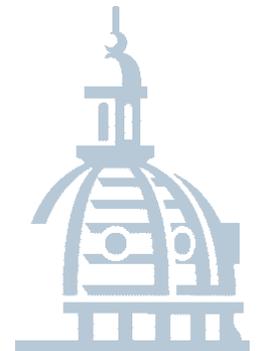
An Act relating to disaster assistance by providing a jumpstart housing assistance program, disaster aid individual assistance grants, a rebuild Iowa office, and community disaster grants, making appropriations, and providing effective and retroactive applicability dates.

NOTES ON BILLS AND AMENDMENTS (NOBA)

Available on line at <http://www3.legis.state.ia.us/noba/index.jsp>

Fiscal Services Division

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
NOTES ON BILLS AND AMENDMENTS**

**HOUSE FILE 64
DISASTER ASSISTANCE APPROPRIATIONS BILL**

FUNDING SUMMARY

**JUMPSTART HOUSING
ASSISTANCE**

- Appropriates \$56.0 million from the Economic Emergency Fund to three Departments for disaster-related programs in FY 2009.
- Appropriates \$24.0 million to the Iowa Finance Authority for the Jumpstart Housing Assistance Program for forgivable loans for certain housing expenditures. Applies retroactively to September 1, 2008.
- Defines “eligible resident” as a person residing and owner of a disaster-affected home with a family income equal to or less than 150.0% of the county median family income and specifies three priorities for distribution:
 - First priority to eligible residents who have not yet received funds from the Jumpstart Housing Assistance Program prior to the effective date of the Bill.
 - Second priority to eligible residents who received less than \$24,999 from the Jumpstart Housing Assistance Program prior to the effective date of the Bill.
 - Third priority to eligible residents who have received \$24,999 from the Jumpstart Housing Assistance Program that continue to have unmet needs for certain housing expenditures.
- Permits the local government participants, as defined as specified cities and councils of governments based upon presidential disaster declarations to retain up to 3.0% of the funds for administrative costs.
- NOTE: The two major differences between the Jumpstart Housing Assistance Program created by the Governor’s Executive Order and the changes to the Program in this Bill is an increase in income eligibility from 100.0% of the area median income to 150.0% of the county median income; and decreasing the permitted administrative costs from 5.0% of funds to 3.0% of funds. The 2008 area median income by county and family size is available at <http://www.iowalifechanging.com/jumpstart/downloads/2008-MFI.pdf>.
- Appropriates \$10.0 million to the Department of Human Services (DHS) for Disaster Aid Individual Assistance Grants.
- Specifies different criteria for the Disaster Aid Individual Grants compared to current statutory criteria by decreasing the maximum amount of grant from \$5,000 to \$2,500 per household and increasing eligibility criteria from 200.0% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) to 300.0% of the FPL.
- Prohibits the DHS from using the funds for administrative costs.
- Permits residents in counties with presidential disaster declarations or governor State of disaster emergencies to be eligible for the Grants.

**DISASTER AID INDIVIDUAL
ASSISTANCE GRANTS**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
NOTES ON BILLS AND AMENDMENTS**

**HOUSE FILE 64
DISASTER ASSISTANCE APPROPRIATIONS BILL**

**DISASTER AID INDIVIDUAL
ASSISTANCE GRANTS
(CONTINUED)
COMMUNITY DISASTER GRANTS**

- NOTE: For 2008, 300.0% of the FPL for a family of four is an income of is \$63,600. The FPL for 2009 has not yet been issued by the federal Department of Health and Human Services. The 2008 FPL is available at <http://aspe.hhs.gov/POVERTY/08poverty.shtml> .
- Appropriates \$22.0 million to the Department of Management for community disaster grants to cities and counties.
- Specifies that the individual city and county awards are based upon the pro rata share of the total statewide damage between May 24, 2008, and August 14, 2008, as determined by the federal Emergency Management Agency as of January 1, 2009.
- Specifies the recipients and expenditures that are eligible for the funding.
- Prohibits the Department of Management and the grant recipients from using the funds for administrative costs.
- Requires a report from grant recipients regarding the allocation and uses of funds by January 1, 2010.
- Creates a Rebuild Iowa Office to coordinate efforts for natural disasters between May 24, 2008, and August 14, 2008. Repeals the Office on June 30, 2011.
- Requires the Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division to provide administrative support to the Office.
- Requires that the Office be administered by an Executive Director appointed by the Governor.
- Specifies the duties of the Office and establishes a Coordinating Council to facilitate communication between State agencies and the Office. Designates the membership of the Council.
- Requires the Office to submit a report on January 31, 2010, and January 31, 2011, regarding activities of the Office.
- Permits the FY 2009 appropriations from the Economic Emergency Fund to carry forward into FY 2010.
- Specifies that each of the three Programs receiving funding from the Economic Emergency Fund and the appropriations for the Programs take effect upon enactment.

REBUILD IOWA OFFICE

**NONREVERSION OF FUNDS
EFFECTIVE DATES**

Summary Data

Other Funds

	Estimated FY 2009 <u>(1)</u>	Supp-House Subcom FY 2009 <u>(2)</u>	FY 2009 EEF Supplemental vs. FY 2009 <u>(3)</u>
Unassigned Standings	\$ 0	\$ 56,000,000	\$ 56,000,000
Grand Total	\$ 0	\$ 56,000,000	\$ 56,000,000

Unassigned Standings

Other Funds

	Estimated FY 2009	Supp-House Subcom FY 2009	FY 2009 EEF Supplemental vs. FY 2009
	(1)	(2)	(3)
<u>Iowa Finance Authority</u>			
Iowa Finance Authority			
Jumpstart Housing Assistance Program - EEF	\$ 0	\$ 24,000,000	\$ 24,000,000
Total Iowa Finance Authority	\$ 0	\$ 24,000,000	\$ 24,000,000
<u>Human Services, Dept. of</u>			
General Administration			
Disaster Aid Individual Assistance Grants - EEF	\$ 0	\$ 10,000,000	\$ 10,000,000
Total Human Services, Dept. of	\$ 0	\$ 10,000,000	\$ 10,000,000
<u>Management, Dept. of</u>			
Management, Dept. of			
Community Disaster Grants - EEF	\$ 0	\$ 22,000,000	\$ 22,000,000
Total Management, Dept. of	\$ 0	\$ 22,000,000	\$ 22,000,000
Total Unassigned Standings	\$ 0	\$ 56,000,000	\$ 56,000,000